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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/276,042	03/25/1999	JOSEPH MICHAEL CHRISTIE	1098D	1578

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EXAMINER

TIEU, BENNY QUOC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 03/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/276,042

Applicant(s)

CHRISTIE ET AL.

Examiner

Benny Q. Tieu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jang (U.S. Patent No. 5,274,698).

Regarding claim 7, Jang teaches a method including determining if the caller number should be checked in a validation table (allowing and denying tables Figs. 4A-4E). Note that if the caller number should be checked, checking the caller number in the validation tables to determine if the number should be allowed and if allowed processing the number (class A - class D, see column 6, lines 9-23). Note also that if one is considered class A, there are no restrictions and call is routed (column 6, line 13), this includes 1-800 calls. See also column 7, line 24. Jang differs from the claimed invention in that Jang starts with the class and utilizes the corresponding denying or blocking table to determine whether the call should be blocked or allowed by bypassing the validation of the called number. The claimed invention starts first with the denying or blocking table (if the call is not toll free) and utilizes the corresponding class to determine whether the call should be blocked or allowed by bypassing the validation of the called number. However, both Jang and the claimed invention accomplish the same result. The difference simply does not rise to the level of patentability. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the

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use of either which one starts first, to start with the class or to start with the denying or blocking table, as modified in Jang in order to easily provide whether a caller in a certain level to be able make a certain call.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jang (U.S. Patent No. 5,274,698) in view of Farris et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,592,477).

Regarding claim 8, Jang teaches the claimed method as claimed except for the IAM. However, IAM is notoriously well known in the art as shown by Farris et al. at column 25, line 56, column 30, lines 8-17 and column 40, line 64 through column 41, line 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of IAM in the Jang method as this is the way things are done in an AIN network in order to provide a faster call set up.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 7 and 8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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OR Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA 22202.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

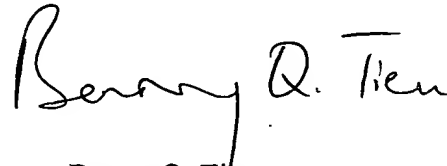
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Q. Tieu whose telephone number is (703) 305-2360. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-6306 for regular communications and (703) 308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Benny Q. Tieu". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Benny Q. Tieu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2642

BQT
February 14, 2003